

(b) The analysis for chapter 471, as amended by this subtitle, is further amended by inserting after the item relating to section 47143 the following:

“47144. Use of funds for repairs for runway safety repairs.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3941

(Purpose: To slightly modify the scope of projects eligible for railroad safety grants)

On page 50 of division A, strike line 7 and all that follows through “Code:” on line 10, and insert the following: “up to \$25,000,000 shall be available to carry out section 24407(c)(1) of title 49, United States Code; and not less than \$25,000,000 shall be available to carry out paragraphs (2), (5), (6), (7) and (10) of section 24407(c) of such title:”.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now vote on these amendments en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on these amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question occurs on agreeing to the amendments en bloc.

The amendments (Nos. 3934, 3918, 3905, 3926, 3961, and 3941) were agreed to en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

AMENDMENTS NOS. 3914, 3938, 3948, 3954, AND 3971  
TO AMENDMENT NO. 3896

Mr. KIRK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following amendments be called up en bloc and reported by number: No. 3914, by Senator TESTER; No. 3938, by me; No. 3948, by Senator HELLER; No. 3954, by Senator HEITKAMP; and No. 3971, by Senator BENNET.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the amendments by number.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Illinois [Mr. KIRK], for himself and others, proposes amendments numbered 3914, 3938, 3948, 3954, and 3971 en bloc to amendment No. 3896.

The amendments are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3914

(Purpose: To require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report evaluating force structure and military construction requirements in Europe)

At the appropriate place in title I of division B, insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. (a) Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report evaluating the extent to which the Department of Defense has developed a comprehensive force structure plan, including military construction requirements, to meet emerging security threats in Europe.

(b) The report required under subsection (a) shall include an assessment of the extent to which the Department of Defense has—

(1) identified the near-term and long-term United States military force requirements in Europe in support of the European Reassurance Initiative;

(2) evaluated the posture, force structure, and military construction options for meeting projected force requirements;

(3) evaluated the long-term costs associated with the posture, force structure, and military construction requirements; and

(4) developed a Future Years Defense Program for force structure costs associated with the European Reassurance Initiative.

(c) The report shall also include any other matters related to security threats in Europe that the Comptroller General determines are appropriate, and recommendations as warranted for improvements to the Department's planning and analysis methodology.

AMENDMENT NO. 3938

(Purpose: To make a technical correction to section 132 of title I of division J of Public Law 114-113)

At the appropriate place in title I of division B, insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. (a) Of the amounts appropriated by section 132 of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 (division J of Public Law 114-113; 129 Stat. 2683), \$30,000,000 is hereby rescinded.

(b) Notwithstanding section 123 of this title, for an additional amount for fiscal year 2016 for “Military Construction, Army” in this title, \$30,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, is provided for advances to the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, for construction of access roads as authorized by section 210 of title 23, United States Code.

(c) This section shall become effective immediately upon enactment of this Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 3948

(Purpose: To modify the contents of the quarterly report on disability compensation claims)

On page 245, lines 23 through 24, strike “and (7) the number and results of Quality Review Team audits” and insert “(7) the number and results of Quality Review Team audits; (8) the number of claims completed by each Regional Office based on the Regional Office being the station of jurisdiction; and (9) the number of claims completed by each Regional Office based on the Regional Office being the station of origin”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3954

(Purpose: To require coordination within the Department of Veterans Affairs to meet the readjustment and psychological counseling needs of veterans in rural and highly rural communities)

At the end of title II of division B, add the following:

SEC. 251. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that the Readjustment Counseling Service of the Department of Veterans Affairs coordinates directly with the Office of Rural Health of the Department on efforts to expand the capacity of Vet Centers (as defined in section 1712A(h) of title 38, United States Code) in order to ensure that the readjustment and psychological counseling needs of veterans in rural and highly rural communities are met.

(b) Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report detailing the number of Vet Centers (as so defined) operated by the Department and a strategic plan to increase the capacity of such Vet Centers to address unmet readjustment and psychological counseling needs of veterans in rural and highly rural communities.

AMENDMENT NO. 3971

(Purpose: To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide monthly assistance allowance to disabled veterans training to compete on the United States Olympic Team)

At the end of title II of division B, add the following:

**SEC. 251. MONTHLY ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCE FOR DISABLED VETERANS COMPETING ON OLYMPIC TEAMS.**

Section 322(d)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “allowance to a veteran” and inserting the following: “allowance to—“(A) a veteran”;

(2) in subparagraph (A), as designated by paragraph (1), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(B) a veteran with a service-connected disability rated as 30 percent or greater by the Department who is selected by the United States Olympic Committee for the United States Olympic Team for any month in which the veteran is competing in any event sanctioned by the National Governing Bodies of the United States Olympic Sports.”.

Mr. KIRK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now vote on these amendments en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KIRK. I know of no further debate on these amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question occurs on agreeing to the amendments en bloc.

The amendments (Nos. 3914, 3938, 3948, 3954, and 3971) were agreed to en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

**MORNING BUSINESS**

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**62ND ANNIVERSARY OF BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, 62 years ago today, the Supreme Court issued its decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, which struck down laws permitting racially segregated schools in 17 States and the District of Columbia.

The Court overturned *Plessy v. Ferguson*, the notorious 1896 decision that found racially segregated schools could be, “separate but equal.” The Court unanimously held that laws requiring racial segregation in schools violate the Equal Protection clause of the 14th Amendment and recognized that equal access to education is a fundamental civil right. In the *Brown v. Board* opinion, Chief Justice Earl Warren wrote, “in the field of public education, the doctrine of ‘separate but equal’ has no